

Instructions for Water Rights Web Queries

QUICK SEARCH

To find all water rights you own: select 'Owner' from the list of Index Type at the top of the screen. Down in 'Area Filters', type your name in the space for Owner, last name first then a space followed by your first initial. If you have a common last name, try also selecting the county you are in to narrow down the list that it gives you. Click the 'Search' button at the bottom to bring up the list. You may click the WR number on the left to see the details.

INDEX TYPE

The index type changes what information will display in your search results. Search results can be sorted by clicking the heading over a column.

Diversion – Location of points of diversion

Owner – Listed by Owner

Place of Use – Places Where Water Right is Used

Priority Date – Listed by Priority Date

Purpose – Listed by Purpose

Reservoir – Gives Location and Size of Reservoirs

Source – Listed by Water Source

Specific Help Topics

AREA FILTERS

Stream

Stream is the water source for the water right you are searching for. The 'stream' for wells is 'groundwater'.

Lake names may also be written in 'stream'. The names of the streams are those claimed or identified on United States Geological Survey (USGS) maps. During basin examination, streams that are not named on USGS maps are renamed as unnamed tributaries of the next named stream down (ex. Unnamed Tributary of Missouri River).

Exact spelling is required or the search will probably not find anything. If that does not work, search for tributaries of the next stream down (ex. Unnamed Tributary of Missouri River). Parts of stream names may be replaced by '%' (ex. Unname%Tribu%Missu%River).

Owner

Names are stored in a format of Last First Middle Initial. For example, James L Smith is written 'Smith James L'. Use your name as you would write it on official documents (ex. James instead of Jim). When searching for your name, first try your full name in the last name first format. If that does not work, try your last name followed by your first initial (ex. Smith J). If that does not work, your name may be misspelled in the, replace part of your last name with a '%' (ex. Smi% J). If you still can't find your water rights with the owner search, the water rights might not be in your name and DNRC should be contacted.

WR NUMBER

The water right number is written as Basin Number Extension (41K 130067 00). The water right number **MUST** be written exactly in this format or the search will not find anything. If you receive a letter from DNRC about a water right that does not have an extension (41K 555555), add 00 as the extension for the web query (41K 555555 00). If you do not know your basin number (41K), look at the basin list in the 'Area Filters' section. Selecting your county first will narrow down the list.

PRIORITY DATE RANGE FILTERS

Dates are written in the yyyyymmdd format. Writing dates in any other formats will cause your search to return nothing. If you don't have a complete date, add zeros to fill in spaces.

Examples:

1/15/1945 – 19450115

2/7/1964 - 19640207

1887 – 18870000

June 1920 – 19200600